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DIR-4884

DD/S 70-1688

8 April 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with General Accounting Office Officials  
re. Language Training

Miss Linda R. Hanyal and Messrs. John Milgate, Assistant Director, International Division, and Paul Bryant, all of the General Accounting Office visited the Language School on 7 April. The purpose of this visit was to discuss Agency language training as a part of the GAO survey of government language training. Chief and Deputy Chief, Language School, represented the Language School in these discussions.

It was apparent from the start that they recognized the limitations which were necessary to any discussion of Agency activities. They did not ask "indiscreet" questions and did not push whenever it was apparent that we could not comment on a particular question asked. In my earlier talk with Mr. Gale Woods I had established certain guidelines for such a discussion and I repeated them at the start of our talks. I indicated that I could not talk about numbers of people or funds, except in the most general way. They accepted. I further pointed out that if a report were written citing CIA language training practices, we would prefer non-attribution to the degree possible and especially as the report might include statistics. To this they agreed stating that any reference to the Agency would be as general as the article on CIA training appearing in "American Education" the Office of Education publication. They further agreed to let us edit any report which made reference to Agency language training. In my opinion they looked upon their visit with us as information to round out their knowledge and understanding of government language training rather than a search for controversial practices or for information to be included in a report. It was evident that they recognized the difference in the GAO relationship with the Agency compared to their relationship with other government agencies. The fact

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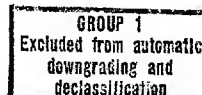
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that they do not intend follow-up sessions as they have done with other agencies (see red line paragraph in attached memo) is evidence of this.

The attached letter, which they had prepared but did not send, at our request, provided the agenda.

- 1-a. We informed them of the languages we taught, the rationale for teaching these particular languages, and generally the rationale for why we have an internal language training program.
- b-c. We did not respond to these.
  - d. We discussed the rationale for external language training emphasizing use of other government facilities to the degree possible. We did not cover size or scope of the external language training effort.
  - e. Referred here to PL 110 and recent Legislative and Executive actions concerning training in the Federal Government. Very briefly covered the Language Development Program without too many details.
2. Indicated that the bulk of our research was an internal effort and in only one instance, the development of the Vietnamese course, did we go the contract route. They appeared surprised at the paucity of our contract efforts but impressed with what we were able to accomplish in-house in research and study (Testing, Textual materials, cassette application, PAI, CAI, video-tape, Closed Circuit Television.)
  - a. This was covered in our discussion of our external language training effort.
  - b. Talked about PAI and its impact on our training, discussed the relative importance of time in language training and why a course was scheduled for "x" weeks; how ideally a 1-1 student teacher relationship was best but economically not feasible.

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- c. Discussed our search for "the better text" and how difficult it was to come by just the right materials to meet our needs. Discussed our use of FSI, DLI and commercially produced materials and when these were inadequate, the limited degree to which we produced our own.
  - d. Talked about our present efforts to upgrade our proficiency testing so that it was an accurate reflection of language competence. Outlined our continuing efforts to upgrade methodology although we followed the audio-lingual method to a large extent.
- 3 a. We explained that all career trainees were required to take an aptitude test and all language students were required to have the Modern Language Aptitude Test. We discussed our rationale for this.
- b. Advised that a part of our Language Development Program was the designation of not only overseas positions but all positions requiring language proficiency.
  - c. Discussed our "limited" incentives program and the rationale for it.
  - d. Discussed our application of continued service agreement for external language training indicating that we did not apply it in cases of internal training. Our visitors were in agreement with this policy.
  - e. Pointed out that the two major considerations in opting for external training versus internal training were security and no internal capability in a particular language. Selection of an external facility was most often based upon security consideration and timing. Often we had to go where the language was taught although another facility may have been more desirable. We explained that very rarely did we turn to academic language facilities.
  - f. Here the question arose as to whether or not a language trained employee came to be an "area specialist." I explained that the "demands of the service" were the major criteria for assignment but that the policy was to use the "hard" language competence to the greatest degree possible.

-3-  
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In summary, Mr. Milgate seemed pleased with our session, our willingness to discuss as much as we did and our cooperation in this matter. We followed the formal discussion with a tour of the Language School, showing our visitors the language laboratory as well as the rest of the School. They were impressed by the size of the operation as well as the dinginess of our quarters.



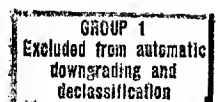
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Chief, Language School

-4-

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UNITED STATES GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

INTERNATIONAL DIVISION

7 APR 1970

STAT

[Redacted]  
Chief, Language Training  
Language and Area School  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20505

STAT

Dear Mr. [Redacted]

The General Accounting Office is presently conducting a survey of the various methods employed within the Federal Government for training personnel in foreign languages. Accordingly, it would be extremely useful to include the language training activities of the Central Intelligence Agency.

The survey will be directed towards acquiring a general working knowledge of the means by which the Agency meets its foreign language requirements, both in-house and through contract. In this respect, the work we have performed to date at other agencies has consisted basically of obtaining the following type information.

1. Basic operating statistics and information
  - a. Schedule of language programs conducted.
  - b. Cost of and number of persons trained in the various language courses.
  - c. Cost, staffing, and other operating statistics for in-house facilities.
  - d. Basic data on any outside language training contracts.
  - e. Pertinent agency regulations and legal authority for language training.
2. Language research studies or contracts
  - a. Utilization of various alternative training facilities.

- b. Effectiveness or economies of various teaching concepts (e.g. conventional methods vs. total immersion vs. programmed instruction).
  - c. Preparation of textbooks or language aids.
  - d. Development of new teaching or testing methods.
3. Procedures and criteria involved in achieving and utilizing language capability
- a. Use of language aptitude tests as a hiring prerequisite.
  - b. Designation of overseas positions requiring language proficiency.
  - c. Use of incentive payments to encourage the acquisition and retention of a language proficiency.
  - d. Use of continued service agreements or other methods to assure utilization of Federal language training.
  - e. Determination of training facility to be used.
  - f. Utilization of language trained personnel.

Surveys conducted at other agencies have generally taken from two to three weeks with a staff of two auditors. We plan that the on-site work will be performed by Mr. Paul W. Bryant, Supervisory Auditor, and Miss Linda R. Hanzal, Auditor, of my staff.

As requested, security clearances for the following individuals are attached:

J.E. Milgate, Assistant Director  
E.G. Woods, Audit Manager  
P.W. Bryant, Supervisory Auditor  
L.R. Hanzal, Auditor

Your consideration of our request to visit your language school will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

J.E. Milgate  
Assistant Director

Attachments



**UNITED STATES GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548**

INTERNATIONAL DIVISION

This certification is not to be honored unless  
the employee(s) named herein present(s) Official  
U. S. General Accounting Office Credentials.

**MAR 23 1970**

STAT

Mr.   
Chief  
Language Training School  
Central Intelligence Agency

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that the General Accounting Office employee(s)  
concerning whom information is given below has (have) been cleared  
for access to security information classified up to and including  
TOP SECRET.

<u>Name of Employee</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Date of original Clearance*</u>	<u>Date of Updating**</u>
John E. Milgate	7/10/22	1 /27/54	8/8/66
Earl G. Woods	8/ 9/25	10/11/68	
Paul W. Bryant	10/22/41	9 /10/64	
Linda R. Hanzai	10/ 8/45	5 /22/67	

\*Clearance based on Full Field investigation conducted by the Civil Service Commission under the provisions of Executive Order 10450.

\*\*Clearance was Updated by a National Agency Check conducted by the Civil Service Commission.

Very truly yours,

OYE V. STOVALU  
Oye V. Stovall  
Director

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DD/S 70-1316

1 APR 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Training

ATTENTION : Chief, Language School

SUBJECT : Gale Woods - GAO - Review of Language Training  
Facilities

1. As regards the proposal by Mr. Woods of GAO to visit the Agency and discuss our Language Training Program as an interest point in connection with the Government-wide study being conducted by GAO on the assessment and costs of Government language training facilities.

25X1 2. Mr. [ ] may on an informal basis, not in writing, invite Mr. Woods over for a visit and discussion. Mr. [ ] is free to discuss the basics of our Language Training Program. He should advise Mr. Woods, however, that our Language Training Program is classified and is devoted to the training and tradecraft of the Agency and any information concerning the Program is not to be incorporated as such into the GAO Report. We wish to be as cooperative as possible but the classified nature of our training does not permit any statistical or other reporting in a GAO study of our Program. On the other hand, we would be very interested in the GAO findings as a result of their study. 25X1 Mr. [ ] is to take appropriate action as above and submit a summary report of his meeting with Mr. Woods.

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R. L. Bannerman  
Deputy Director  
for Support

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